THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) Incidents of some such practices have come to notice. Raids and checks are conducted to curb their activities. Passengers are also advised not to purchase tickets from unauthorised persons.

(b) One hundred and seventeen raids were conducted during the last three years.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) Periodic reviews are conducted.

(e) Yes, Sir. Special drives are conducted to apprehend touts an unauthorised persons particularly during the summer rush.

World Bank report on long range Planning for Railways

3780. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 556 given in the Rajyya Sabha on the 15th March, 1995 and state the details of the draft report which the World Bank had furnished in September, 1994 to the Government of India on long range planning for Indian Transport sector, including Railways?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): In the report furnished by the World Bank to Government of India dealing with the long term issues on India Transport Sector, the Bank has brought out that the long term annual growth rate of Indian economy is expected to rise from 3.5-4.0 per cent in the past to 4.5-6.0 per cent resulting in doubling of freight transport output every 10 to 13 years and passenger transport output every 7 to 10 years. Foreign trade flows would also double in about 8 years. There are other changes taking place in Indian Economy such as privatisation of industrial sector, deregulation, reduction in Govt. subsidies, demographic pressures, increasing urbanisation, rapid technological changes and other factors such as degradation of environment etc. All these factors would bring pressure on transport network and fundamental changes in the pattern of employment, management techniques, pricing policies institutional arrangements would have to be considered to enable the transport sector including Railways to meet future transport demand.

Costs Incurred by Consignees at Major Ports

3781. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the cost incurred by consignees of Cargo, both container-wise and loose, at different major ports;

(b) whether there is any proposal to bring down the port and other handling charges of Cargo at these ports; and

(c) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) The posts to be incurred by the consignees at ports comprise rates chargeable by port itself as well as other agencies. The latter are not covered by the scale of rates. The cost varies from port to port and also from cargo to cargo. It is, therefore; not possible to quantify the actual cost.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Bye pass Roads on National High-ways in Maharashtra and Gujarat

3782. SHRI CHIMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state: